

REMARKS

Claims in the case are 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 16 and 17 upon entry of this amendment. Claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 16 and 17 have been amended, and Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 11-15, and 18-20 have been cancelled herein. No claims have been added in the present amendment.

Basis for the amendments to (B) of Claim 17 are found at page 10, line 25 through page 11, line 21; and page 12, lines 14-15 of the specification. Basis for the amendment of (D) of Claim 17 is found in Claim 13 (which has been cancelled by amendment herein), and at page 17, line 8 through page 19, line 8 of the specification. Claim 17 has been further amended herein to rearrange terms for purposes of improved clarity, and to introduce Markush language. The remaining claims (2, 3, 7, 9, 10 and 16) have been amended such that they now depend from Claim 17, for purposes of formality (e.g., by replacing "according to" with --wherein--), and for purposes of improved clarity by rearranging terms.

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) or (e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,403,683 B1 (**Kobayashi**) or United States Patent No. 6,362,269 B1 (**Ishihata et al**) or United States Patent No. 6,174,943 B1 (**Matsumoto et al**) or United States Patent No. 5,965,655 (**Mordecaie et al**). These rejections are respectfully traversed in light of the amendments herein and the following remarks.

Kobayashi discloses a polycarbonate resin composition that includes; an aromatic polycarbonate resin; a styrene based resin (e.g., ABS); a phosphate-based flame retardant; silicate filler having a specified chlorine content; optionally PTFE; and optionally a (meth)acrylate-based core-shell graft copolymer. See the abstract; column 2, lines 25-64; and column 5, line 40 through column 7, line 26 of Kobayashi. Kobayashi does not disclose a composition that includes a graft polymer in which the graft base thereof has a mean particle size of 0.05 to 10 μm , and a gel content of at least 30 wt. %.

Ishihata et al discloses a resin composition that includes: an aromatic polycarbonate; a mixture of aromatic polycarbonate and a styrene-based resin (e.g., ABS resin); a mixture of aromatic polycarbonate and aromatic polyester resin; reinforcing filler; and optionally an aromatic phosphoric acid ester type flame

retardant. See the abstract; column 10, line 10 through column 12, line 34; and column 23, lines 40-67 of Ishihata et al. Ishihata et al does not disclose a composition that includes a graft polymer in which the graft base thereof has a mean particle size of 0.05 to 10 μm , and a gel content of at least 30 wt.%.

Matsumoto et al disclose a thermoplastic resin composition which includes; a polycarbonate resin; aromatic polyester resin; a silicate compound (e.g., wollastonite); organic phosphorous based flame retardant; optionally a graft copolymer; and optionally PTFE. See the abstract; column 6, line 44; column 11, line 20 through column 12, line 4; and column 16, line 20 of Matsumoto et al. Matsumoto et al does not disclose a composition that includes a graft polymer in which the graft base thereof has a T_g of less than 10°C, a mean particle size of 0.05 to 10 μm , and a gel content of at least 30 wt.%.

Mordecai et al disclose a thermoplastic molding composition that includes: thermoplastic polymer or blends thereof; and wollastonite having a high aspect ratio of length to diameter (abstract, and column 2, lines 49-61). The thermoplastic polymers that may be included in Mordecai et al's compositions include aromatic polycarbonate and rubber modified copolymers (e.g., ABS). See column 9, and lines 34-42; column 10, lines 44-62. Optionally, the compositions of Mordecai et al may also include flame retardants (column 12, line 51). Mordecai et al do not disclose a composition that includes a graft polymer in which the graft base thereof has a T_g of less than 10°C, a mean particle size of 0.05 to 10 μm , and a gel content of at least 30 wt.%.


The thermoplastic molding composition of Applicants' present claims includes a graft polymer in which the graft base thereof has a T_g of less than 10°C, a mean particle size of 0.05 to 10 μm , and a gel content of at least 30 wt.%. As discussed previously herein, Kobayashi, Ishihata et al, Matsumoto et al and Mordecai et al, either alone or in combination, do not disclose a composition that includes a graft polymer in which the graft base thereof has a mean particle size of 0.05 to 10 μm , and a gel content of at least 30 wt.%.

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicants' claims are deemed to be unanticipated by and patentable over Kobayashi,

Ishihata et al, Matsumoto et al or Mordecai et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In light of the amendments herein and the preceding remarks, Applicants' presently pending claims are deemed to define an invention that is unanticipated, unobvious and hence, patentable. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the presently pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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